

WHAT'S HAPPENING WEDNESDAY

Kansas Immunization Program

May 27, 2020

VFC Consultant On-Call

The Consultant On-Call can be reached Monday—Friday, 8 a.m.—5 p.m. at 785-296-5592.



CHIEF CHAT

The last publication for What's Happening Wednesday was on March 4. At that time, spring was in the air. Fast forward 12 weeks and it's hard to believe what has happened since then. Spring conferences, sporting events, end of school year activities, etc. have looked very different this year. The school year is now finished, trees and flowers have bloomed, late spring and early summer storms are in the air, but so is a nasty virus. The coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, which is caused by a virus named SARS-CoV-2, has changed the way we live and conduct business across all sectors.

Of particular note, vaccinations for children have been placed on hold due to coronavirus and changes in the way we have approached healthcare. The Kansas Immunization Program (KIP) did a review of publicly-funded vaccine orders from January-April 2019 compared to January-April 2020. We were surprised, but not shocked, to see a significant reduction in the vaccine orders. In April of this year there was an overall drop in the numbers of vaccines ordered by 56% or 21,143 doses. The reduction in vaccines being provided to children places them at increased risk for vaccine preventable diseases.

A Special Alert went out on May 21, 2020, which shared a press release from the Kansas Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics reminding the public that pediatrician offices are taking precautions to maintain safe environments for children to be seen and

offices are open.

While pediatricians address many issues with children, we know that we can prevent an outbreak of vaccine-preventable diseases by keeping children up to date with recommended vaccines, ensuring that providers have vaccines on hand, and that there are adequate access points for children to receive their vaccines.

- To assist immunization providers with determining how to get children caught back up on their vaccines, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has a [Catch-up immunization schedule for persons aged 4 months – 18 years who start late or who are more than 1 month behind, United States, 2020](#). This resource is available on the internet via the link above and as a mobile application, which can be found in the App Store.
- KSWebIZ, the statewide immunization registry, can also assist system users through a patient reminder/recall report. This report will identify patients that are overdue or due for vaccinations. Directions for running this report can be found in the KSWebIZ section of this newsletter.

It will take all of us to ensure we get children caught back up on their vaccinations. Finally, the Kansas Immunization Program wants to thank all of our partners for your tireless efforts in the COVID-19 pandemic response!

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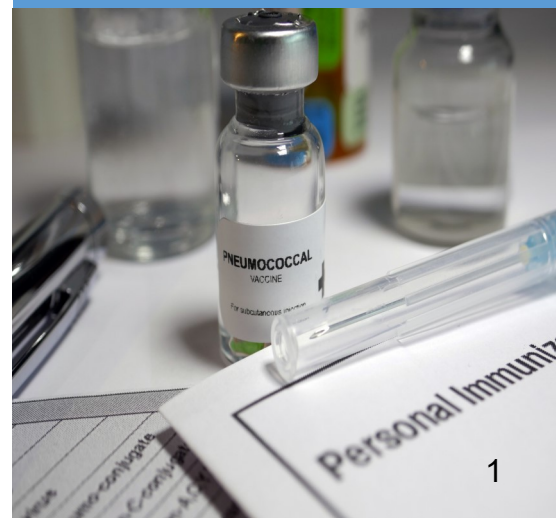
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FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Request for Proposals (RFP)

Vaccine Preventable Diseases – COVID-19

Pfizer Global Medical Grants (GMG) supports the global healthcare community's independent initiatives (e.g., research, quality improvement, or education) to improve patient outcomes in areas of unmet medical need that are aligned with Pfizer's medical and/or scientific strategies.

Pfizer's GMG competitive grant program involves a publicly posted general Request for Proposal (RFP) that provides detail regarding a general area of interest, sets timelines for review and approval, and uses an internal Pfizer review process to make final grant decisions. Organizations are invited to submit an application addressing the research gaps as outlined in the specific RFP.

For all Investigator Sponsored Research (ISRs) and general research grants, the grant requester (and ultimately the grantee) is responsible for the design, implementation, sponsorship, and conduct of the independent initiative supported by the grant, including compliance with any regulatory requirements. Pfizer must not be involved in any aspect of study protocol or project development, nor the conduct or monitoring of the research program.

Date RFP Issued: May 20, 2020

Geographic Scope: Global

Clinical Area: Vaccine Preventable Diseases – COVID-19

Link to full RFP: [Vaccine Preventable Diseases - COVID-19](#)

Application Due Date: June 17, 2020

Specific Area of Interest: The intent of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to support research to increase knowledge of COVID-19 epidemiology, infection, pathophysiology, and potential prevention measures. We are particularly interested in supporting research in the following areas:

- Understand impact of COVID on communities, spectrum of disease in communities, and level of herd immunity
- Postmortem Analysis of deceased persons with known or suspected COVID-19

Receiving Vaccines

When a vaccine shipment is received, immediately unpack vaccines and diluents, store them at recommended temperatures and document appropriately.

While unpacking you should:

- Examine the shipping container and vaccine vials for signs of physical damage.
- Verify the contents of the shipment match the packing list and the actual order that was placed.
- Verify that lyophilized vaccines came with the correct quantity and type of diluents (note: diluents for vaccines containing varicella are stored in a separate compartment in the lid of the container and need to be stored separately in the refrigerator).
- Check the dates of the vaccines and diluents to ensure none are expired or are expiring soon.
- Check the cold chain monitor for any indication of a temperature excursion during transit.
- Verify the time frozen direct-ship vaccines spent in transit is acceptable.

If you do the above steps and notice that vaccines were compromised, there is extra or less vaccine than what was ordered, or notice a problem with the temperature monitors, you should immediately contact the Kansas Immunization Program Vaccine Coordinator at 785-296-1948 or kdhe.vaccine@ks.gov.

Kansas Statute Going Into Effect

On July 1, 2020 a new Kansas Statute is going into effect. This statute makes it a requirement for all physicians and other authorized individuals to enter administered vaccines into KSWebIZ, the statewide immunization registry. The statute states:

K.S.A. 65-2886a. Reporting of administration of vaccines by physicians and other authorized individuals; exceptions. (a) On and after July 1, 2020, physicians and other persons authorized by law in this state to administer vaccines shall report the administration of a vaccine to a person in this state to the state registry maintained for such purpose by the secretary of health and environment in a manner and form as may be required by the secretary, except that if the person vaccinated or, if the person is a minor, the parent or guardian of the minor, objects to the report, the report shall not be made.

(b) As used in this section, "physician" means a person licensed to practice medicine and surgery.

History: L. 2017, ch. 32, § 2; July 1.

For assistance with obtaining access to KSWebIZ, please contact the Kansas Immunization Program at:

Website: www.kdheks.gov/immunize/immunization_registry.htm

Email: KDHE.ImmunizationRegistry@ks.gov

Phone: 877-296-0464

KSWebIZ: Patient Reminder/Recall Report

The Patient Reminder/Recall Report has the ability to breakout patients that are coming due for a vaccination in the future (i.e., Reminders) from patients that are overdue for a vaccination (i.e., Recalls). The Kansas Immunization Program recommends running one report for reminders and a separate report for recalls.

To access the Patient Reminder/Recall Report:

- Select the **Reports** link on the *left-hand menu*.
- Select the **Patient Reminder/Recall** link under the *Patient Management* section.



The main Patient Reminder/Recall screen displays all previous reports created for the defaulted provider and clinic indicated on the KSWebIZ home screen.

This screen allows the user to:

- Create new Patient Reminder/Recall lists by selecting the **Add Reminder/Recall Run** button.
- Edit existing Patient Reminder/Recall Reports by selecting the **View** button to the *right of the desired report* and then selecting **Reprocess** to update the report.
- Generate Dymo labels, Avery labels, reports or full extracts by selecting the **radio button** to the *left* side of the report and then selecting the desired output **button** at the *bottom of the screen*.

Patient Reminder/Recall

Choose filters for existing Reminder/Recall Runs. Click "View" to see the details of the Reminder/Recall run or select a specific Reminder/Recall Run and click the applicable button to view extracts, reports, etc.

View

Provider

Clinic

	Provider	Clinic	Run Name	Run Schedule Date	Run Completed Date	Reminder/Recall From Date	Reminder/Recall Through Date	# of Patients in Run	# of Patients Assessed		
<input type="radio"/>	KANSAS WEBIZ TRAINING	KANSAS DIRECT ENTRY TEST CLINIC	RECALL	03/27/2013	03/28/2013	03/27/2013	03/27/2013	3	3	<input type="button" value="Reprocess"/>	<input type="button" value="View"/>
<input type="radio"/>	KANSAS WEBIZ TRAINING	KANSAS DIRECT ENTRY TEST CLINIC	REMINDER	03/27/2013	03/28/2013	03/27/2013	12/31/2013	3	3	<input type="button" value="Reprocess"/>	<input type="button" value="View"/>
<input type="radio"/>	KANSAS WEBIZ TRAINING	KANSAS DIRECT ENTRY TEST CLINIC	TEST	10/02/2008	10/02/2008	10/02/2008	10/02/2008	1	NA	<input type="button" value="Reprocess"/>	<input type="button" value="View"/>

<input type="radio"/>	Unvaccinated Report	Report
<input type="radio"/>	Dymo Labels	Postcard
<input type="radio"/>	Full Extract	

Tuberculosis Tidbit

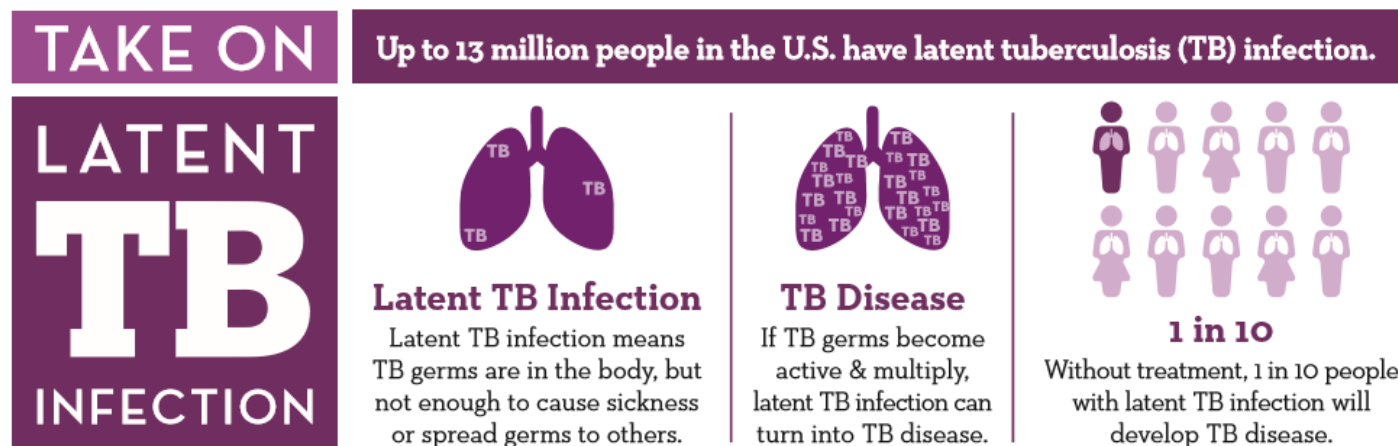
Due to COVID-19, there have been changes to the daily operations of the Tuberculosis (TB) Control Program. Local health departments should review the following information and adjust procedures accordingly.

1. Medication shipping is only being performed once weekly due to state office closures and/or telecommuting of TB staff. Please be sure to order meds **at least two weeks** before they are due to run out to allow ample time for the order to be processed.
2. Tuberculin Purified Protein Derivative (PPD) is being shipped as quickly as possible. If your facility is low or out of PPD, please conduct TB symptom screening on patients. If symptoms of TB disease are identified continue with the evaluation process to rule out active disease. **Any patient that is screened for symptoms only should be called back to have a PPD administered once the facility receives its order of PPD.** The state program will resume normal PPD shipment once state offices reopen.
3. **Active TB Disease patients are a priority during the pandemic.** Patients diagnosed with Active TB Disease should still be receiving daily medication administration via in person or video directly observed therapy (DOT).
4. Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI) patients **currently** on medications should continue to receive medications according to their treatment orders.
5. **New** LTBI cases that have not started medications prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, should **NOT** start medications until the state returns to normal shipping routines, **UNLESS** the patient is immune compromised or at greater risk for break down to active disease (i.e., HIV-positive, diabetic, pediatric, cancer, etc.).

Finally, as of February 2020 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) no longer recommends 6 or 9 months of Isoniazid (INH) therapy as a first line LTBI treatment. Any patient diagnosed with LTBI should be treated with 3HP (INH and Rifapentine) or 4 months of Rifampin.

COVID-19 has strained healthcare services statewide. We at the TB Control Program greatly appreciate all the hard work and dedication of the local health departments, private providers, hospitals, long term care facilities, and health care workers of our great state.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to Kimberly Winans (kimberly.d.winans@ks.gov) or Lisa Edgerton-Johnston (lisa.edgerton-johnston@ks.gov) for any questions, comments or concerns regarding TB in Kansas. Due to limited access to voicemails while state offices are closed, please utilize email as much as possible. Thank you again for your commitment to the health and wellbeing of our friends, families, neighbors and communities. Our success would not be possible without each and every one of you.



Source: www.cdc.gov/tb/publications/infographic/pdf/Take_on_LatentTB_Infection.pdf